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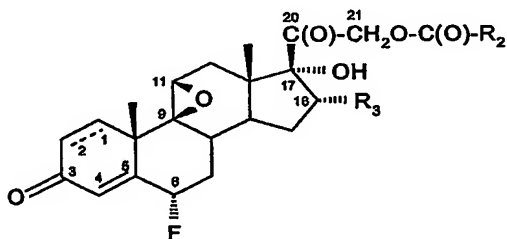
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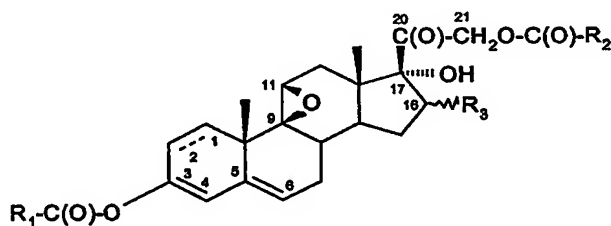
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PREGNANES



(I)



(II)

(57) Abstract: An improved stereoselective process for the preparation of 6 α -fluoropregnane derivatives of formula (I), comprising the reaction of 3-benzoyloxy- Δ 3,5-pregnane derivatives of formula (II), with an electrophilic fluorination agent in a substantially water-free reaction mixture and in the presence of a salt of a strong acid with a nitrogenous base.